THE REPRESENTATION OF THE Lower Houſe of CONVOCATION CONCERNING Dr. *CLARKE*,

Laid before the Biſhops of the Upper Houſe, *June* 2. 1714. Together with their Lordſhips Anſwer, ſent down *June* 4.

To his Grace the Lord Archbiſhop of *Canterbury*, and the Lords the Biſhops of the Province of *Canterbury* in Convocation aſſembled.

The Clergy of the Lower Houſe of Convocation humbly Repreſent,

THAT a Book hath been publiſh'd of late, and diſperſed throughout this Province, Entituled, *The Scripture-Doctrine of the Trinity. In Three Parts. Wherein all the Texts in the* New Teſtament, *relating to that Doctrine, and principal Paſſages in the* Liturgy *of the Church of* England, *are collected, compar'd, and explain'd.* By *Samuel Clarke*, D. D. *Rector of St.* James's Weſtminſter, *and Chaplain in Ordinary to Her Majeſty*, and ſeveral Defences thereof by the ſame Author; which Book and Defences do in our Opinion contain Aſſertions contrary to the Catholick Faith as receiv'd, and declar'd by this Reform'd Church of *England*, concerning *Three Perſons of One Subſtance, Power and Eternity in the Unity of the Godhead*; and tending moreover to introduce Confuſion in the Solemn Acts of Publick Worſhip, as directed by our eſtabliſh'd Liturgy, to the great Grief and Scandal of Pious and Sober minded Chriſtians.

And whereas there are divers Paſſages in the Book of *Common-Prayer* and *Thirty Nine Articles*, which are directly oppoſed to ſuch Heretical Aſſertions; we do further repreſent, That even theſe Paſſages have been by the ſaid Author wreſted with ſuch Subtilty, as may both Teach and Tempt the Unſtable and Inſincere to comply with the Laws which require them to declare their unfeigned Aſſent and Conſent to the ſaid Book of *Common-Prayer*, and ſubſcribe the ſaid *Articles*; and nevertheleſs to retain and propagate the very Errors which are moſt inconſiſtent with ſuch their Declaration and Subſcription.

It is with the utmoſt Concern that we behold thoſe daring and dangerous Attempts to ſubvert our Common Faith, to corrupt the Chriſtian Worſhip, and to defeat the Church's main End in agreeing upon Her Articles, namely, *The avoiding of Diverſities of Opinions, and the Eſtabliſhing of Conſent touching True Religion.* And We cannot therefore but think our ſelves bound in Duty to God and his Church, in diſcharge of the weighty Truſt repoſed in us as Members of this Synod, and in Charity to the Souls committed to our Care, moſt earneſtly to beſeech your Lordſhips to take the Premiſes into your ſerious and godly Conſideration; aſſuring your Lordſhips of our moſt dutiful and ready Concurrence in any proper Methods for putting a ſpeedy and effectual Stop to this growing Miſchief, and removing from our ſelves the Reproach which our Silence on ſo important an Occaſion might juſtly bring upon us.

The ANSWER.

THE Biſhops highly approve the Zeal of the Lower Houſe for the Preſervation of the Catholick Faith, expreſſed in their Repreſentation laid before this Houſe the laſt Seſſion, wherein they declare their Concern for that Scandal given to Pious and Sober minded Chriſtians, by ſome Books lately publiſh'd by Dr Clarke, *and their Apprehenſion of the Miſchiefs and dangerous Conſequences that may enſue thereupon.*

The Biſhops think the Lower Houſe had juſt Reaſon for ſuch their Complaint, and will take it into their Conſideration what is proper to be done on this Occaſion.

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